

ATTACKS MORGAN AND STANDARD OIL

Senator La Follette Makes Sensational Speech on the Aldrich Currency Bill.

TELLS THAT PANIC WAS CAUSED BY FINANCIERS

Declares That All the Banks of the Country Are Opposed to the Measure, but That Morgan Approves It—Committee Eliminates Railway Bonds as Security.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 17.—"What I have to say is made more pertinent if possible by the action taken during the day with respect to the Aldrich bill," said Mr. La Follette in beginning his speech in the Senate on the currency bill to-day. His reference was to the amendments made to the bill by the committee on finance.

Speaking of the "Morgan and Standard Oil" trusts, Mr. La Follette declared: "I will show the connection of these great groups with the bill pending here, notwithstanding the dexterous withdrawal of the proposition to incorporate railway bonds in the bill. Mr. Aldrich knows Mr. Morgan's objection to this bill was made by the National City Bank of New York, and that Mr. Vanderbilt, vice-president of that bank, has opposed the measure. 'I do not know,' he said, 'not only opposed by that bank, but by all the banks of New York. I know of no bank or banking man in favor of this bill. The fact is the banks throughout the country are against it.'"

How Morgan Stands. "I will inquire," retorted Mr. La Follette, "what the position of Morgan is?" "I do not know," replied Mr. Aldrich, "but I know Mr. Morgan is a man of wide experience and wise judgment, and has patriotism, and I should feel gratified if he approved this bill." "Perhaps," replied Mr. La Follette, "the chairman of the committee on finance would be able to find out where Morgan stands. His countenance beaming from the gallery of this chamber while the Senator from Rhode Island spoke on this measure rather indicated that Mr. Morgan, the head of one of these great groups, was not entirely adverse to the propositions embraced in the bill."

"I suppose," said Mr. Aldrich, "the Senator from Wisconsin will agree with me that this proposition should be discussed on its merits as to what it will do and not in view of what men in the position of Mr. Morgan think of it."

"Let me say," Mr. La Follette replied, "you cannot always tell from the lines of a man's face whether he is in favor of a measure or not. I should say the proposition to withdraw the program to incorporate railway bonds in this bill throws a flood of light upon the purpose of this legislation. Let me say to the Senator from Rhode Island, further, that it is not beyond question that those great organizations which put out here their criticisms of this proposition to give color to the idea that these great corporations were not behind this legislation."

Denounced Standard Oil. Declaring that recent financial stringency was brought about by the influence of "Standard Oil," Mr. Pierpont Morgan, Senator La Follette entered into a denunciation of men high in the financial world.

"There were immediate reasons for a panic," said Mr. La Follette. "There were speculative and political reasons why a panic might serve special interests. There were business scores to settle. There was legislation to be blocked, and a currency measure suited to the system to be secured. There was the credit of the country to be secured."

"A panic came. I believe that it was only to be followed step by step to show the plan planned and executed. In so far as such a proceeding is subject to control, after once in motion."

He recounted in vivid language his view of the events of October 24th, when Wall Street was in the throes of the currency stringency. The Morgan and Standard Oil banks, he said, pursued in that critical moment the course of the speculating bankers.

Dead to Commerce. "They ministered to the needs of Wall Street," he said, "to the needs of commerce. Their course was that of men who were playing with the credit of the country for a purpose."

He discussed the economic development of the country, and laid especial stress upon the growth of financial combinations.

"The bare names of the directors of two great bank groups (Standard Oil and Morgan), given in connection with their business associations, resulting in occasional collision," he continued, "they are practically monopoly, and as far as the public is concerned practically one group. The business partner of the head of the Morgan group is found on the directorate of the leading financial institution which heads the Standard Oil group. And one of the leading directors of the National City Bank (Standard Oil) is a member of the board of directors of the principal financial institution in the Morgan group. The directors of the leading organization comprising the two principal groups are bound together in mutual interest as shareholders in the various industrial concerns, which have been financed by one or the other of these groups in recent years."

After talking for two and a half hours, Mr. La Follette found himself

THERE TO PROTECT ALL

British and German Cruisers Reach Port—Guns Alarm the Natives. PORT AU PRINCE, HAITI, March 17.—The British cruiser Indefatigable and the German cruiser Bremen have arrived here. An American warship is expected to arrive at any moment. At present the city is quiet, but there is an underlying current of anxiety, as evidenced by the fact that a veritable panic was caused by the booming of a heavy gun on the British cruiser when she came to anchor in the port last evening.

Surprised by the sudden alarm, officers and soldiers alike rushed precipitately to their posts; women and children ran about hither and thither, in seeming despair, crying hysterically, and it was some little time before they could be reassured and calmed. General Deschamps, chief of the harbor force, said that the commander of the Indefatigable begged the general to express to President Alexis his regrets at having been the involuntary cause of so regrettable an incident.

Positive denial is made by the Haitian officials of the report that other executions have taken place than those on Sunday morning, when ten or twelve conspirators were shot to death.

After a decision taken by the council of ministers, the government will order the sending on board the warships and out of the country the authors of the last insurrection, who have taken refuge at the French, German and Spanish consulates at Gonaives.

DYING, CALLED FOR HELP

Sick Man 'Phoned for Doctor, But Expected He Would Arrive. Realizing that he was dying, Mr. Alexander Harman, brother of Hon. A. G. Harman, State Treasurer, and clerk in the Treasurer's office, called upon Dr. A. G. Franklin about 4 o'clock on yesterday morning, and in a voice scarcely intelligible begged the physician to aid him.

Dr. Franklin immediately hurried to Mr. Harman's home, No. 111-2 South Third Street, but found him lying across the hall beyond the reach of human aid. In less than a minute after Mr. Harman's death, his wife, Mrs. Harman, had suffered for years with heart trouble, and had been warned that such an attack was likely to come on at any moment. Recognizing the fatal symptoms, which had been so fully explained to him, he went to the hospital, and called upon Dr. Franklin, who had been his physician for years.

"I believe I am dying, doctor," he said.

Mr. Harman was fifty-five years old, and a native of Augusta county, but had been a resident of this city since 1880, where he was widely known. He was a son of Colonel and Mrs. Michael Harman, of Augusta county, and was a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute.

The body will be taken to Staunton to-day, and the funeral will be held in the family burying grounds in Augusta county.

WAS SCOUT FOR CUSTER

Death of John McGrath, Said to Have Been Only Man to Escape Massacre. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] CHARLOTTE, N. C., March 17.—John McGrath, said to have been the only man who escaped the massacre of General Custer's brigade at the Little Big Horn in the Indian War, died at his home here to-day at the age of seventy-five.

McGrath was born in Galway, Ireland, and shortly after coming to this country, enlisted in the American army during the Indian War, and served a period of more than thirty years. At the battle of the Little Big Horn McGrath was one of the scouts sent out by General Custer to seek reinforcements, and was the only one who successfully made his way back. He secured aid and led the rescuing party back, only to find that the Indians had done their bloody work.

After the war between the States closed McGrath came to North Carolina to live. A few years ago he was pensioned by special act of Congress. He is survived by a wife and five children.

THE BLOW IS FATAL

One Boy Kills Another in Bout Following Performance in Theatre. PHILADELPHIA, PA., March 17.—In an amateur boxing tournament following the regular performance at the Bijou theatre, a fatal blow was struck by a young man, who was killed while boxing with Charles Wolf, of the same age. Robinson and Wolf, who were friends, had been in the ring for thirty-five seconds when the latter struck Robinson a severe blow over the right eye, which caused the state and became unconscious. The regular physician in attendance, who had previously examined the contestants, failed to revive Robinson and he died in the police patrol on the way to the hospital. The contestants were to have fought three rounds for a prize.

Fred Douglas, the referee under whose management the tournaments are held, together with Wolf, Frank Moore, his second, and Marcus Williams, George Zerk, and several others, were given an immediate hearing at which they were held to await the action of the coroner.

STUDENTS BAILED

Ann Arbor Men Led Into Court Handcuffed—Some Are Fined. ANN ARBOR, MICH., March 17.—All of the University of Michigan students arrested last night on a charge of rioting at the Star Theatre are to-night at liberty, but fifteen of them had to furnish \$100 bail each, after being led into Judge Cooch's court, and back to their cells like hardened criminals handcuffed and under a heavy police guard. Three students pleaded guilty on a charge of loitering, and were fined \$4.65 each.

The fifteen who gave bail will have their examinations Friday morning on a charge of rioting.

As soon as the boys were arraigned and their bail was fixed local business men came to their aid with offers of bail. The required amount being promptly furnished in each case. There are no indications to-night of any recurrence of last night's disturbance.

DRINKING MEN AROUSED

Many Fear That Their Names Will Appear in Official List. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] WASHINGTON, D. C., March 17.—Mayor Baker this evening began the preparation of a list of persons who are regarded as habitual drunkards. The operation of the Byrd liquor law and the announcement that such a list will be posted has caused a great stir in view of the fact that many heretofore unsuspected by many people are included. Official lists are about to be posted conspicuously in all saloons.

WILL HER DIVORCE STAND THE TEST?

Important Case in New York Court Affecting Decree Granted Mrs. Ransom. AFTER SHE MARRIED FORMER HUSBAND SUELED

Only Question of Validity of Order of Separation Hinges on Publication of Notice as Legal Service, Which Justice Dowling Questions.

NEW YORK, March 17.—The Sun to-day prints the following story, which is of special interest to Virginia people:

A divorce case of more than ordinary legal and human interest is now occupying the attention of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in this department. Lawyers who make a study of matrimonial litigation are deeply interested in the outcome of this suit, which will probably be carried to the United States Supreme Court, no matter which way the State courts pass on it.

This action is entitled "Porte V. Ransom vs. Ransom," and its present stage is an appeal from a decree of divorce granted to the plaintiff by Justice Victor J. Dowling, sitting in special term of the Supreme Court. Mrs. Ransom, as she is known legally in this State, is actually Mrs. George L. Dowling, of Madison, Va., having married a lawyer at that name well known in Washington as the law partner of Representative James Hay, of Virginia.

MILLER ARRAIGNED AGAIN

Alleged Baggage Thief Claims He Can Only Be Tried in Orange. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., March 17.—Charles Miller, the alleged baggage thief, was brought here this afternoon in order that he might be arraigned in the Corporation Court of this city for grand larceny, the same offense with which he was charged in Orange.

When put upon his arraignment, Miller's counsel filed a plea in objection to the jurisdiction of the court, claiming that under the terms of the act in order, which brought him from England, he could only be tried in the county of Orange.

Counsel for the Commonwealth, however, claimed that Miller was liable to be tried for the same offense for stealing the same goods in any county where he had possession of them.

The argument lasted for over four hours, Judge Sinclair announcing at 9:30 that he would render his decision at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. The prisoner was represented by the firm of Shackelford, Morton & Shackelford, of this city, while the attorney for the Commonwealth was looked after by Captain Michael Woods, Commonwealth's Attorney, and by Charles L. Brantley, of Charlottesville, Commonwealth's attorney of Orange.

Miller came up from Richmond in a car with Mr. Rogers and Officer O. M. Wood. Upon being taken to jail, he was assigned the cell formerly occupied by ex-Mayor J. Samuel McCue.

SHOOT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Negro Head of One of the Roanoke Schools Shot by a Patron. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] ROANOKE, VA., March 17.—A. B. White, the colored principal of the Ninth Avenue Public School, was shot and mortally wounded at the school building this afternoon by Thomas C. Cooper, a negro grocer. A sister of Cooper is a teacher in the school, and she and other children of the family were in the school when the shooting occurred. Cooper sent a note to White telling him he wanted to see him.

This afternoon he drove up to the school with another negro. When White came out he had a pistol and fired two shots at Cooper, missing him. Cooper then shot him down and emptied his revolver in him, wounding him four times, while White also was wounded. The shooting occurred at 3:30 p.m. School was in session at the time, and the greatest excitement prevailed.

The wounded man was taken to the hospital, while Cooper was arrested. The bullet struck White in the right arm, two in the hip and one lodged in his leg. Physicians don't think he can live. Negroes say White has made himself very unpopular by his criticism of teachers and the race in general, and sympathize with Cooper.

SPERRY TO COMMAND

Will Succeed Evans, Who Retires at San Francisco. WASHINGTON, D. C., March 17.—Rear-Admiral Charles S. Sperry will succeed Admiral Evans in command of the Virginia fleet when it leaves San Francisco in July to enter the globe. This important assignment was given by President Roosevelt and his Cabinet to-day.

Rear-Admiral Evans on his personal staff will be relieved of the command at the conclusion of the big naval review at San Francisco, May 8th. The admiral is in charge of the Atlantic fleet, and his work here was assigned to do take the Atlantic fleet to the Pacific coast. Admiral Evans retires in August.

To Rear-Admiral Thomas comes the honor of commanding the fleet on its way to visit Japan, and until the homeward journey begins. He has been second in command during the voyage, and will be retired in October.

RACE TO COMPLETE SHIPS

Newport News Plant in Contest With Boston and Mass. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] BOSTON, MASS., March 17.—North and South are racing again, and each other in the construction of Uncle Sam's two greatest battleships. These are the Delaware and the New York, which will be completed by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., of Newport News, Va. The result will decide the rivalry of the two of the greatest shipyards in the world, both having been awarded contracts for the construction of the 16th. Each of the ships is of the same construction, except for engine equipment. The Delaware is having turbines, and the Delaware River Company is under bonds also to complete its vessel. The Delaware is to be completed in thirty-six months. The North Dakota is to be completed in thirty months, and the Delaware only 230 per cent.

BUCHANAN DEAD

Dies of Bullet Wound Received While Sitting in Southern Railroad Train. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] O. W. Buchanan died here to-day as a result of a bullet wound received yesterday while sitting in a passenger coach of a Southern Railway train. Judge Buchanan was reading by a window when a bullet came through the glass and entered his right side. There is nothing to indicate who fired the shot. The only theory now entertained is that it was a stray bullet fired by some person practicing shooting.

For some years the Ransoms lived happily together and she became the mother of two children, a daughter, Elizabeth Miller Ransom, now fourteen years old, and a son, Carter Saunders Ransom, who is a year.

Left Her Husband. Shortly after the birth of the son the conduct of Ransom began to change. Mr. and Mrs. Ransom used to spend their summers at Glendalough, Va., the place of the Hills, and it was there that the Ransoms began to quarrel. Mrs. Ransom before Justice Dowling is embraced in the findings of fact made by the justice on which the decree is based, and the fifteenth finding of fact reads as follows:

In May, 1898, the defendant, on account of the plaintiff's conduct and habits of life and cruel and inhuman treatment of her, left the plaintiff and went to Glendalough, Madison county, Va., with the intention of never returning to the plaintiff. Before she left the plaintiff's father advised her to stay with her relatives in Virginia. In the course of the other thirteen findings of fact made by Justice Dowling he sets forth that Ransom induced his wife to return to New York by his promises of better behavior, but failed to keep his promises, and she was obliged to go South again with the children. On one occasion, in 1899, Ransom is quoted as having said to Mrs. Nellie Bispham, a relative of Mrs. Ransom:

"Nellie, Eva has been the truest, best wife a man ever had, and I have been

KING IS IN LONDON

Boston Financier, for Whom Warrants Are Out, Reported on the Other Side. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] BOSTON, MASS., March 17.—Cardenio E. King, the financier, who three months ago could write his check for \$1,000,000, and to-day is a hunted fugitive from justice, is in London, while his friends and agents have been circulating reports of trips to New York to raise funds and of confinement in a Southern sanatorium.

The financier for whose arrest for embezzlement warrants have been issued, quietly gathered up his things, took all the available cash and fled from his office and home, and sailed for Liverpool on the Cunard liner Etruria February 22d. He was not entered on the list of passengers and remained in seclusion until the pilot left the boat. Then he appeared and seemed to make no effort to hide his identity.

WEATHER

For Richmond: Fair.

SEAR DEBATES HOBSON'S CHARGE

Says He Did Not Promise to Use Influence With Speaker for Hero of the Merimac.

LILLEY CHARGE CAUSES REPORTERS' DISCHARGE

Erly and Lord, Who Wrote Articles for Attorney McNeir, Denounce Lilley's Statements as Unqualifiedly Untrue. Other Charges of Corruption Fund.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 17.—The statement of Representative Richmond P. Hobson, of Alabama, before the special committee of the House investigating the charges made by Representative George Lilley, of Connecticut, that he had been approached by a representative of the Electric Boat Company who offered to use his influence with the Speaker to have Mr. Hobson placed on the Naval Affairs Committee if he "stood right on submarines," was contradicted to-day before that committee by Lawrence Spear, the former naval officer, who Mr. Hobson said had spoken to him. Mr. Spear said he had not made any promise to secure the influence of Speaker Cannon or any one else, and that he never had tried to influence them; in fact, he said he did not know the Speaker.

Mr. Spear claimed that his company had never endeavored to suppress competition; had never received any legislative or departmental favors, and had never received an order from the Navy Department except as the result of successful competition.

Unqualifiedly Untrue. The other two witnesses of the day were A. A. Erly and Frank B. Lord, two of the newspaper men whom Mr. Lilley charged he had been warned against as in the pay of the Electric Boat company. They both denied that they were ever in the pay of the company, although they said they had done special work for Mr. McNeir, one of the attorneys for the company, in the way of getting out some "feature" stories on submarines, for which they had been paid. Both witnesses testified that they had lost their positions as a result of Mr. Lilley's charges. Mr. Lord characterized the reputation by Mr. Lilley of an interview he claimed to have had with him as "unqualifiedly, absolutely and deliberately untrue."

The committee adjourned until Thursday.

Lawrence Spear, who said he was one of the vice-presidents and naval constructor of the Electric Boat Company, was called as the first witness. He is a graduate of the Naval Academy, and relieved Mr. Hobson in charge of the School of Naval Architecture. He resigned from the naval service July 1, 1902, and entered the service of the Submarine Boat Company.

Friendly Warning. Mr. Spear said that the last time he had seen Mr. Hobson was at the Capitol, a month or six weeks ago. He had gone to see him, he said, at the instance of Vice-President Frost, to give him a friendly warning, and another man who was trying to influence submarine legislation.

Mr. Spear said that in their conversation Mr. Hobson had expressed the opinion that there should be twice as many submarines as the Navy Department recommended by the Secretary of the Navy.

Mr. Spear was then asked about the conversation over the telephone to which Mr. Hobson had testified. He flatly contradicted Mr. Hobson, saying that he had never promised to use his influence with the Speaker or any one else to get Mr. Hobson appointed on the Naval Affairs Committee.

"I think Mr. Hobson is mixed over a conversation I had with his secretary," continued Mr. Spear. "I had a talk with his secretary during Mr. Hobson's illness, in which I said that I hoped Mr. Hobson would recover. I asked how he was progressing in his efforts to become a member of the Navy Committee, and he said that he supposed all Mr. Hobson needed was the recommendation of Mr. McNeir."

Mr. Hobson called him up at his hotel and said: "I understood the Speaker acted on my recommendation. I also said that I thought I should get a recommendation, as both he and Mr. Williams were Southern men."

Hobson Called Him Up. "I told the secretary to tell Mr. Hobson that I could assist him in any way I would be glad to do so. I had gone to see Mr. Hobson to talk with him about the recommendation, and he said he would tell Mr. Hobson that I had called and also given him the substance of the conversation."

Referring to the conversation with Mr. Hobson over the telephone, Mr. Spear said it was his impression that Mr. Hobson had said to him: "I am not going to bother about talking to me about submarine boats. I have not changed my views. I then asked him how he was getting along with his efforts to become a member of the Navy Committee, and he said he was earnestly trying to get the place, and I replied, 'Well, if there is anything I can do to help you, let me know.'"

Moreover, I would not want you to do anything. Your connection with a company that is interested in the legislation would prove embarrassing. I told him I would be guided by what he said. The witness said that he took pains to let Mr. Hobson know that he was talking for himself and not for the company.

"Did you say in that conversation," Mr. Spear asked, "that you can get Williams, I will do the rest?"

Mr. Spear's recollection of that conversation is that no reference was made to Mr. Williams, the Speaker or any one else.

"Did you hold out to him that you had any influence with any one, that would tend to secure his appointment on the committee?"

"Not in the slightest. Have no influence."

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HITS AT REPUBLICANS

Representative James Says Party Has Stolen Democratic Platform.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 17.—The failure to provide a penitentiary penalty in the railroad rate law was among the charges made in the House to-day by Mr. Ollie James, of Kentucky, of Republican legislation in the last few years. The Republicans, he charged, had done more than legislate in favor of railroads, had allowed the people's money without paying interest on it, although the Democrats had tried to so influence legislation as to cause such interest to be paid.

"We are being gradually educated by the Democratic party," he said, addressing the Republicans; "but God only knows what debt it is you owe the American people for all the wrongs you have inflicted upon them."

It was surprising, he said, to hear that the Republicans at last proposed to revise the tariff. "You have come to the Democratic position on everything in the world," he said, "and almost tried to imitate it. You have offered to the American people the shadow and not the substance."

Mr. James provoked laughter by referring to the free list of the Dingley tariff. He quoted nux vomica, old junk, dragon's blood, cuttlefish bone and leeches; as to the latter he said he was in favor of making the price as high as heaven itself, "because we have enough leeches and blood-suckers here now."

The record of the Republican party, however, he declared, had been written, and it could not be changed.

Loud Democratic applause greeted Mr. James when he asserted his belief that in the last two campaigns against Mr. Bryan "but for the corruption brought by the Republicans upon the Democratic party, Mr. Bryan would have been elected President of the United States."

Mr. Bryan, he said, stood for something and had convictions and the courage to express them. "He has never been a man to take a bribe for money," he said. "He has never sold the love of the American people for corporation gold." The people of the country, he said, would "in just time do proper meed and credit to the man who draws the naked sword in defense of the rights of the people and believed that these people are going to elect for President that grand, that splendid, that matchless Democrat, William Jennings Bryan."

UZZLE IS ACQUITTED

Negro Charged With Rioting in Accompany Found Not Guilty. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] NORFOLK, VA., March 17.—D. UZZLE, colored, charged with rioting and causing a riot in Accompany county, on the Eastern Shore, was acquitted to-day in the Norfolk city corporation court. The jury was out in an hour before reaching a verdict.

In the original trial before Judge Blackstone, Uzzle was found guilty of rioting and sentenced to three years in the State penitentiary. On an appeal from the conviction, the evidence against the two negroes was stronger than that against Uzzle, the feeling here is that both will be acquitted.

The courtroom was crowded with negroes when the verdict was brought in, and there was an effort to make a demonstration in favor of the prisoner, but it was quickly checked by Judge Hancok who ordered the court officials to arrest any one guilty of any act tending to a demonstration, on the charge of contempt of court.

35,000 PARADE

Greater New York Irishmen Honor St. Patrick. NEW YORK, March 17.—Irishmen of New York to the number of 35,000 marched forth to-day, making the greatest demonstration of the kind in the history of the city. The parade was led by the St. Patrick that the city has ever seen. Of the total 25,000 paraded in Manhattan and the others in Brooklyn. The evening feature of the St. Patrick celebration was the dinner of the St. Patrick Society at the Pough Mansion, in New York, and several rights were tendered Governor Hughes. The Governor arrived at 7:30 o'clock and was given an ovation.

The parade of the Manhattan parade brought in the forty-one divisions of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, thirty-two organizations representing Irish soldiers, sailors and marines, forty-eight benevolent orders and twenty-six Clan Na Gael clubs. Added to these were the sixty-ninth regiment of New York, and several regiments of Irish volunteers. Thousands of banners bearing the harp and shamrock fluttered in common with the Stars and Stripes.

To-night there was feasting and singing and dancing all over the city. Among the many features of the celebration was the parade of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, at Delmonico's. The guests of honor were Secretary Taft and Governor Hughes. The dinner was given by the St. Patrick Society at the Pough Mansion, in New York, and several rights were tendered Governor Hughes. The Governor arrived at 7:30 o'clock and was given an ovation.

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PUPIL ASSAULTS TEACHER

He, His Mother and Several Friends Are Fined for the Offense. [Special to The Times-Dispatch.] WINCHESTER, VA., March 17.—Several hundred men and women from the town of Winchester and county were attracted to-day to Whitehall, where Judge Luther Pannell had the trial of Robert Brannon, a pupil of the Springdale school, who was alleged to have stoned a United States flag that had been raised at the school-house recently, and who was charged with assaulting a teacher on his teacher, Frank Shippe.

The Federal authorities failed to appear against Brannon, but he and his mother, Mrs. Rose Brannon, and several young men friends, who had assaulted Teacher Shippe on a dark and lonely road, several rights ago, were assessed with fines aggregating nearly \$75. Intense feeling prevailed during the trial, and it was with difficulty that the officers maintained order.

OFF FOR NEWPORT NEWS

TO ATTEND LAUNCHING TO-DAY. [From Our Regular Correspondent.] WASHINGTON, D. C., March 17.—Nearly all the eighteen members of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce left for Norfolk by boat to-night to attend the launching at the Norfolk Navy Yard to-morrow of the derelict destroyer Seneca. The party was led by Chairman Knapp, Hepburn, chairman, accompanied by his little granddaughter, who will christen the vessel.

TO PROSECUTE SHIPPERS AND C. & O. AGENTS

Charge of Rebating and False Billing Clearly Sustained. By Evidence Secured.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL WILL DIRECT CASE.

Commissioner Lane's Report Shows Violation of Law—District Attorney Lewis to Ask Grand Jury to Indict. Statement from President Stevens.

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Officials and Shippers Who May Be Indicted.

E. D. Hotchkiss, general freight agent of the Chesapeake and Ohio, on the charge of false billing, was named by the Attorney-General in the report of the investigation of the Chesapeake and Ohio, for rebating on the destruction of railroad papers by the government.

W. R. Johnston, grain dealer, beneficiary of a rebating system, by which the Atlantic Coast Line and the Southern Air Line were mulcted, was named collectively, rebate beneficiaries, by reason of the fact that through shippers of packing-house products from the West, and opened and changed here, going out again on a division of the through and local rate, the latter being higher.

Although Warner Moore & Company violated the law, the statement made by the Attorney-General, John H. Marble, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, that the offense was trivial, compared with that of the others.

ACTING under instructions from the Attorney-General of the United States, the district attorney of the evidence recently secured in Richmond by Interstate Commerce Commissioner Lane, showing a system of rebating, subverted the enactment of the Hepburn law, District Attorney will institute criminal proceedings in the Federal Court here in April against certain local officials of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company and certain local shippers.

The report of Commissioner Lane, made public in Washington yesterday morning, has been approved by the full commission and by Attorney-General Bonaparte, the latter being requested by Chairman Knapp to institute criminal proceedings in the Federal Court here in April against certain local officials of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company and certain local shippers.

Although no names are mentioned in the reports, the statement that "criminal prosecutions will be instituted against certain local officials of the Chesapeake and Ohio, and certain shippers by that line on account of what is asserted to have been illegal practices relative to interstate shipments," leaves little doubt as to who will be included in the case to be presented to the grand jury. During the progress of the inquiry here in February, Commissioner Lane indicated very clearly that the government was anxious to connect E. D. Hotchkiss, general freight agent of the company, with the rebating system, and the more serious offense, Councilman H. Ollie Gates, shipping clerk for Johnston, testified that the latter had "only a smattering" knowledge of the unlawful transactions. There was no direct evidence to connect Mr. Hotchkiss with the false billing order issued by Assistant General Freight Agent Alex. P. Gilbert.

Taking up reports from the street that Mr. Gilbert had in his possession a written order from Mr. Hotchkiss to send out local shipments on a division of the through rate, agents of the commission made an investigation, without securing proof in support of that charge. The report of the alleged authority was strongly denied by the railroad company.

Statement from Stevens. President George W. Stevens, of the Chesapeake and Ohio, who was in Cincinnati yesterday, gave out a statement in which he declared that the charge of discrimination was unjust, and that his road had simply been imposed upon. Other officials of the company in Richmond maintained that some degree of silence which characterized their conduct during the investigation. The statement from Mr. Stevens, as contained in a special dispatch from Cincinnati to The Times-Dispatch, follows:

"The accusation of discrimination is unfair. We were imposed upon. The bills showed that the grain we had hauled from Virginia south had originated in the West. That entitled the grain to the lower long haul rates. Now it develops that the expense bills were fictitious. The grain originated in the Valley of Virginia. We were deceived. The charge that the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad destroyed papers relating to these cases is not true. There was a fraud, and some water-soaked and rotten papers were burned, but they had no relation to these cases."

The action of the commission and the Attorney-General was a depressing factor on the stock market in New York. Though Chesapeake and Ohio stock did